



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yohsuke KINOUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3768

Application No.: 10/565,675

Examiner: K. FERNANDEZ

Filed: February 3, 2006

Docket No.: 126748

For: BLOOD-VESSEL-SHAPE MEASURING APPARATUS, BLOOD-FLOW-VELOCITY MEASURING APPARATUS, AND BLOOD-FLOW-AMOUNT MEASURING APPARATUS

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 9, 2007 Office Action, and in view of the attached Petition for Extension of Time, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application.

**I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 5, 7-8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,891,039 to Bonnefous et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

**A. Claims 1-2 and 7-8**

Claim 1 recites, in part, "a blood-vessel-shape calculating means for *calculating a shape of the blood vessel on an orthogonal section thereof*, based on the respective positions of the respective portions of the wall of the blood vessel that correspond to the first supersonic-wave elements and are calculated by the first wall-position calculating means, and